SUBJECT Location of Tank and Motorized Units of the Yugoslav Army

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Location of Tank and Motorized Units of the Yugoslav Army

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SUPPLEMENT TO

- Headquarters of the tank and motorized units of the Yugoslav Army is located in Belgrade. It is under the command of the Ministry of Defense. As of 1 January 1950, the disposition of the three tank corps and of their component units was as follows:\*
  - a. The 1 Tank Corps Petar Drapsin: headquarters of this corps is located in a renovated artillery barracks in Sisak. Units of the corps are located as follows:
    - 1) I Tank Regiment Sisak. The regimental commander is Colonel Ljubomir Dimitrijevic, a former non-commissioned officer in the Royal Yugoslav Army and a member of the Communist Party since 1940.
    - 2 Tank Regiment Varazdin. The regimental commander is Lt. Colonel Ilija Dibec who, prior to World War II, was a mechanic at the Military Technical Institute in Sarajevo.
    - 3) One motorized infantry regiment Sisak.
    - 4) One heavy artillery regiment Vinkovci. The regimental commander is Colonel Dragutin Lesnjanin, reportedly one of the most capable artillery officers in 1 Corps. He spent one year in artillery training in the Soviet Union.
    - 5) One combined artillery regiment in Sisak, composed of the following units:
      - a) One anti-aircraft battalion, equipped with old German and new Soviet guns. Headquarters in Bjelovar.
      - One anti-vehicle battalion, equipped with 37 mm. and 47 mm. guns. Headquarters in Sisak.
      - c) One heavy mortar battalion, equipped with 210 mm. and 350 mm. guns of Soviet manufacture. Headquarters in Virovitica.

The commander of this regiment is Jure Vinkovic, a former worker

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and a long-time member of the Communist Party. Units of this corps are located along the Hungarian frontier.

- b. The 2 Tank Corps Lola Ribar: headquarters of this corps is located in Ljubljana and its units are dispersed as follows:
  - 1) 25 Tank Regiment Kranj.
  - 2) 26 Tank Regiment Cele.
  - 3) One combined artillery regiment in Maribor, composed of the following units:
    - a) One anti-aircraft battalion Maribor.
    - b) One anti-vehicle battalion Slovenska Bistrica.
    - c) One heavy mortar battalion Ljubljana.
    - d) One motorized infantry regiment in Ljubljana, commanded by Juraj Slivec, a former non-commissioned officer in the Royal Yugoslav Army and reportedly a covert Cominformist。
- c. The 3 Tank Corps, with headquarters in Novi Sad, formerly in Skoplje. This corps was established in 1949. The corps commander is Colonel Nikola Barbaric, a former sergeant in the Royal Yugoslav Air Corps. Barbaric fought with the Partisans during World War II and in 1945 was sent to the Soviet Union for training. He has no special skills but is loyal to Tito. This corps has spent almost four months in the field near the Bulgarian border. It is composed of the following units:
  - 1) One tank regiment Osijek. The regimental commander is Colonel Jovan Cemerikic. The regiment is equipped solely with Soviet T-34 tanks, which were taken out of storage in 1949.
  - 2) 14 Tank Regiment Novi Sada The regimental commander is Colonel Radovan Bjelica.
  - One motorized infantry regiment Pancevo. This regiment is excellently armed and is made up of young men. It is commanded by Colonel Perkovic.
  - 4) One combined artillery regiment Novi Sad. This regiment is composed of the following units:
    - a) One anti-aircraft battalion Sremski Karlovci.
    - b) One anti-vehicle battalion Novi Sad.
    - c) One heavy mortar battalion Osijek.
- There is a large storehouse of trucks and tank equipment in the vicinity of the Jugovicevo airfield and another in Fruska Gora.

Comment: It was expected that the names and numbers of the various corps and of their respective units would be changed during the reorganization which was to take place during the spring of 1950.

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